

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 00869 301824Z

44

ACTION SY-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 /013 W
----- 041314
R 301611Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4979
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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ADDIS ABABA FOR RSS, LAGOS FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, AFSP

SUBJECT: MARINE SECURITY GUARDS - BANGUI

REF: (A) BANGUI 0490; (B) 101269; AND PREVIOUS

1. EMBASSY TODAY RECEIVED ORAL BUT NONETHELESS OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO ITS NOTE OF APRIL 27 AND FOLLOW-UP NOTE OF JULY 17, CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT MSG CONTINGENT.

2. IN COURSE OF LONGER CONVERSATION ON NUMBER OF SUBJECT, CAR FONMIN POTOLOT INFORMED ME THAT GOCAR COULD NOT APPROVE EMBASSY REQUEST. AUTHORIZATION USE MARINE GUARDS AT EMBASSS WOULD ESTABLISH PRECEDENT WHICH OTHERS COULD MISUSE, HE SAID, AND WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH RECENT GOCAR DECISION WITHDRAW PERMISSION FOR FRENCH EMBASSY MAINTAIN MILITARY ATTACHES HERE. WHEN I REMARKED THAT I UNDERSTOOD THEY WERE STILL HERE, POTOLOT REPLIED IT WOULD NOT BE FOR LONG.

3. AFTER I EXPLAINED DISTINCTION BETWEEN MSG AND ATTACHES, POTOLOT STATED GOCAR WISHED AVOID STATIONING OF FOREIGN MILITARY OF ANY TYPE ON CAR SOIL. HE ADDED GOCAR WOULD ALWAYS TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROTECTION OF FOREIGN EMBASSIES.

4. COMMENT: IT WAS CLEAR FROM HANDWRITTEN COMMENTS ON ORIGINAL EMBASSY NOTE THAT NEGATIVE DECISION TAKEN BY PRESIDENT HIMSELF
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SENTIMENT AGAINST STATIONING OF FOREIGN MILITARY IN CAR IS
ALMOST CERTAINLY CONNECTED WITH PAST AND PRESENT FEELINGS ABOUT
FRENCH MILITARY AS AN ASPECT OF COLONIAL RELATIONSHIP

I REGRET
OUTCOME OF OUR EFFORTS BUT THINK IT WOULD NOT BE PRODUCTIVE TO
RAISE MATTER AGAIN UNTIL MATTER OF FRENCH MILITARY HAS BEEN FINALLY
LAID TO REST.
DALE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: boyleja
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